UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dallas, Texas
March 10, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
DALLAS, TEXAS
November 22, 1963

On March 10, 1967, Mr. Cecil R. Bowles, Chief Controller, Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) Red Bird Airport, Dallas, Texas, telephonically advised a representative of the Dallas Office of the FBI that he had been instructed by his superiors to have an employee of FAA under his supervision make available to the FBI certain information which might be of some pertinence to captioned matter in view of the investigation being conducted by District Attorney James C. Garrison at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. Bowles stated that an investigator on the staff of District Attorney Garrison had been at the Red Bird Airport approximately two or three months ago at which time he was exhibiting a photograph of David William Ferrie. Mr. Bowles identified the employee who had information that might be pertinent as Louis Gaudin and then put Mr. Gaudin on the telephone.

Mr. Louis Gaudin, Air Traffic Control Specialist, FAA, Red Bird Airport, Dallas, Texas, advised that on November 22, 1963, he went on duty at the Red Bird Airport Tower between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. When he entered on duty a notice had been posted for all employees to be alert for any unusual activities and to report same to the FBI Office at Dallas.

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ENCLOSURE

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
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Mr. Gaudin stated that between 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., on November 22, 1963, he noted a Comanche type aircraft with three men dressed in business suits at the Red Bird Airport awaiting departure. He stated this aircraft was being serviced by Texair at Red Bird Airport, which servicing facility is owned by a Mr. Merritt Goble. Mr. Gaudin stated the circumstances are now somewhat hazy but he recalls that by conversation while awaiting instructions to this aircraft concerning the runway to be used for take-off, that either the occupants told him that they were southbound or he inquired, and they told him they were southbound. He stated he gave them instructions concerning the runway to use and they took off. He observed this aircraft proceed in a southerly direction and then turn in a northerly direction. He stated he attempted to telephonically contact the Dallas FBI Office several times immediately thereafter and the lines were busy. As he thought about this aircraft being possibly of a suspicious nature, he noted the number and inquired of Mr. Goble at the Texair service facility and learned the name used by the individual who allegedly was the pilot of the plane and made notations concerning same. He cannot recall any of this information at the present time and no longer has the notes he made concerning same.

Approximately forty minutes after the original departure of this aircraft, it returned to Red Bird Airport at which time it had only two occupants. He stated that he had learned prior to its return that Lee Harvey Oswald had been arrested, and although he again endeavored to telephonically contact the Dallas FBI Office which lines were still busy, he decided that apparently this aircraft was not of a suspicious nature in connection with the assassination and therefore disregarded further efforts to notify the FBI.

Mr. Gaudin stated that after the visit to Red Bird Airport by one of District Attorney Garrison's investigators approximately two or three months ago, he again thought of the above-described incident and reported it to his superior.

He stated he had been instructed as a result of the current inquiry by District Attorney Garrison to make the foregoing information available to the FBI although he still did not know whether it was of any significance.

Mr. Gaudin advised that in order to refresh his memory, he had recently contacted Mr. Merritt Goble, owner of the Texair Servicing Facility, at Red Bird Airport, who told Gaudin that although he had information as to the identity of this plane and its occupants on November 22, 1963, he no longer had any record. He stated Mr. Goble indicated that he recalled the aircraft being green and white in color and as being registered at Austin, Texas, as its home base. He stated that Goble indicated he had not been contacted by anyone from District Attorney Garrison's Office.

Mr. Gaudin stated that he recalls that when the aircraft returned to Red Bird Airport, a Mr. Haake, a part-time employee of Texair, met the occupants of the aircraft. Mr. Gaudin identified Mr. Haake as a Dallas police officer. A 1963 roster of the Dallas Police Department reflects a K.H. Haake.

Mr. Gaudin emphasized that although he had seen photographs of David William Ferrie in the newspapers, he had no reason to believe that Ferrie was one of the three individuals in this aircraft nor did he know whether he could identify any of the occupants should he see them again.

The files of the Dallas Office of the FBI contain no information concerning Louis Gaudin, Merritt Goble, or Texair.